## HOUSE BILL 2692 By Kelsey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to postsecondary financial assistance from lottery proceeds.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 49-4-9\_\_\_.

- (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of § 49-4-905(b)(2) to the contrary, a student who graduates from a high school located in a neighboring state in a county contiguous to this state shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship as an entering freshman, if the student:
  - (1) Has been a Tennessee resident, as defined by regulations promulgated by the board of regents under § 49-8-104, for one (1) year immediately preceding the date of graduation from high school and remains a Tennessee resident between graduation from high school and enrollment in an eligible postsecondary institution;
    - (2) Is not ineligible for the scholarship under § 49-4-904;
  - (3) Attains a composite ACT score of at least 21 on any single ACT test date or a combined SAT score of at least 980 on any single SAT test date;
    - (4) Applies for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship; and
  - (5) Is admitted to and enrolls in an eligible postsecondary institution no later than sixteen (16) months after graduation from high school.

- (b) If a student meets the eligibility requirements of subsection (a), but chooses to attend a regionally accredited postsecondary institution located outside of Tennessee without a Tennessee Hope scholarship, then such student shall be eligible for a HOPE scholarship as a transfer student; provided, that the student meets all requirements of § 49-4-929 other than any requirement pertaining to the type of high school from which the student graduated.
- (c) A student who is eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship under this section shall not be eligible for a General Assembly Merit Scholar supplemental award under § 49-4-916.
- (d) No retroactive award of a Tennessee HOPE scholarship shall be made under this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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